Des (1946) Department.

Ms SERIES

G.O. No. 2075

Dated 29. 8. 1946.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Revenue Department. 29847

Subject.

PANCHAYATS--Forests--(South Kanara)--Coondapur Taluk--Detection of Forest Offences--Appointment of Special staff--Proposals--Recommended.

****

Ref.E.No.4642/45-3

Station: Madras Dated 7-5-46

T.S.Swaminathan Esq.,I.C.S.,
Additional Joint Secretary, Board of Revenue.

S. Ranganathan Esq.,O.B.E.,I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Land Revenue & Irrigation

--

Read:- From the Collector of South Kanara D.Dis.No.14011/45 dated 21-12-45
From the Chief Conservator of Forests Rc.No.2141/46 C2 dated 25-4-46

--

Reference:

Submitted to the Government.

2. The Board requests that the Government may be pleased to accord sanction for the appointment of the special staff of one Deputy Tahsildar one L.D. clerk and two peons for a period of three months in the first instance for work connected with the detection of offences.

3. The Collector is requested to report, at the end of the period with statistics showing the number of offences detected (figures to be furnished separately for "Reserves and unreserves") with his opinion as to the need for a further continuance of the staff for another three months.

for Additional Joint Secretary.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Development Department

" The Collector of South Kanara,

CRD.7/5.

NC
9/5

Copy of letter from the Collector of South Kanara, D.Dis.14011-45 dated 21-12-45.

***

Sub:- FOREST OFFENCES - Coondapur Taluk - Detection of Forest Offences - Appointment of Special staff - Sanction - Requested.

I enclose copies of reports Ref.B.5.11715-45 dated 24-11-45 from the Tahsildar, Coondapur and N.Dis.10362-45 dated 12-12-1945 from the Revenue Divisional Officer, Coondapur, describing the extent of illicit felling of Government trees in Coondapur Taluk. Many cases could not be detected as the existing Revenue staff, which is heavily worked, hardly finds time to tackle these cases. Besides, on account of the prevailing high prices for timber, which are likely to continue for at least a year or more, the temptation for illicit felling of Government trees is likely to grow strong among unscrupulous ryots and the contractors of the Wimco Match Company.

2. In order to deal effectively with this problem, I consider that the appointment of a Special Deputy Tahsildar, a clerk and two peons is absolutely necessary for a period of at least six months. As the abolition of the post of Head-quarters Deputy Tahsildar, Coondapur from 1-4-1946 is under contemplation, I recommend that the Special Staff mentioned above may be sanctioned at a very early date. There is every likelihood of the Government realising appreciable amounts of compounding fees to compensate for the cost of the proposed Special Staff, which will also act as deterrent on the timber-stealers.

Copy of the letter from the Tahsildar, Coondapur, Ref.B.5.11715/45 dated 24-11-45.

Sub:- Forests - Coondapur Taluk - Firewood, catechu, timber trees - Cutting and sale - Special staff - Necessary for entertainment - Report submitted.

Coondapur Taluk is next to Puttur Taluk in forest wealth in this District. Ever since the war the price of firewood and timber rose high and this led to a deplorable state of affairs in this Taluk. The Forest Department took up the work of supplying timber logs and sleepers on an unprecedented scale for the war and utilised the services of forest contractors for the purpose. This gave scope for other ryots to make some fortune. The Forest Officials were very busy and could not watch the work of the contractors closely, the contractors did not consult the shanbhogues but went on felling trees of various kinds in reserved forests and unreserved lands both kumaki and non-kumaki without obtaining certificates from the shanbhogues in respect of trees in unreserved lands.

2. Meanwhile, some of the unscrupulous ryots took advantage of the situation and seeing the large fellings by the forest contractors and their servants everywhere began to cut trees wherever available. Lorries belonging to the Wimco, forest contractors and merchants were readily available at a moment's notice and lorries were utilised to carry logs, sleepers, firewood, etc. to distant places both during day and night. The contractors appear to work with the support of the Forest officials.

3. At the same time cartmen and others began to cut firewood trees lying in the neighbourhood of roads and sold firewood at high rates in Coondapur and other places where there was demand.

Boatmen

Boatmen and others living near rivers did the same and conveyed timber and firewood to Gangolly and elsewhere.

4. Many catechu still exist in several interior villages and catechu trees were felled indiscriminately. Some cases were booked. Several cases could not be traced out.

5. While all then persons were engaged in their nefarious trade the Revenue Officials including the village officers were busy with requisitioning work which employed all their time. This was thrown to the forest offenders and was a safeguard to them and they could get on without hindrance.

6. On account of a few anoyymous and pseudonymous petitions a few cases were unearthed and brought to light. Some cases ended in conviction; one sensational case relating to Madamakki village was investigated by the police and a charge sheet was laid recently in the Stationary Sub Magistrate's Court, Coondapur. Several cases have been compounded.

7. Still there are several cases pending for local inspection and hundreds of cases remain to be unearthed. Reports have been received recently of fellings on a large scale as many as 187 Kiralbhogi trees in Molahalli village and 20 trees in Japthi village. It is practically impossible for the Revenue subordinates who have their hands full with requisitioning to inspect lands and enquire into the pending cases and to unearth the innumerable cases in the vast areas in the several villages shown in the margin.

COONDAPOOR FIRKA.	WANDSE FIRKA.	BYNDOOR FIRKA.
64. Japthi.	23. Karadi.	5. Taggarshe.
65. Balkur.	87. Kamalashile.	18. Yeljit.
75. Kulanje.	24. Hosur.	16. Hdranjal.
76. Haladi.	25. Bellal.	11. Ulloor.
58 Ultur.	26. Chittur.	15. Heroor.
100. Vakvadi.	27. Idukunhadi.	17. Kalthodu.
77. Hengavalli.	28. Alur.	19. Kollur.
82. Rattadi.	32. Harkur.	20. Golinole.
78. Belva.	29. Wandse.	21. Jadkal.
79. Albadi.	30. Nujadi.	22. Mudur.
80. Shedimane. Madamakki.	31. Kundaberandadi.	88. Hallihole.
81. Shedimane. - 93. Hombadi mandadi.	33. Hakladi.	
83. Amashebail.	34. Shenapur. 44. Katte velthur. (11 villages)	
97. Yediadimathiadi.	48. Devalkunde.	
94. Molahalli.	47. Kanyan.	
95. Hardalli-Mandalli.	49. Kenchanur.	
96. Halladi-Harkadi.	50. Karkunje.	
98. Korgi.	51. Gulvadi.	
102. Heskuthur.	67. Halnad.	
103. Belur.	68. Kaveradi.	
92. Kalavar.	69. Shankarnarayana.	
99. Asodu.	70. Ampar.	
(23 villages)	71. Kodladi.	
	72. Ajri.	
	73. Shidhapur.	
	74. Ullur.	
	84. Machatte.	
	85. Kosangadi.	
	86. Yedmoge.	
	(30 villages.)	

The present enquiries conducted by Revenue officials are not thorough or want of time.

Further Points:-

Fellings of about 20 trees have been recently reported from Japthi, out 18 trees from Molahalli village. Molahalli is a centre of mischief forest thefts.

8. There were large fellings in Idurkunnadi, Ampar and Albadi villages; but there are no hammer marks in several cases. There is difference of opinion between this department and Forest Department in regard to these fellings. The matter is under investigation.

9. At Chankernagain and Golihole, Blocks of unreserves exceeding 500 acres exist and the question of extracting fuel is being considered by the Government. Statistics have been furnished as regards the F.O.R. reates in B5.10439/45, dated 4-11-45 in reply to Collector's B.1-11419/45, dated 19-10-1945.

10. I submit that in these circumstances an additional staff consisting of a Deputy Tahsildar, a clerk, a surveyor, two peons and a measurer may be appointed to meet the extraordinary situation for a period of at least one year. I am confident that the compounding fee which will accrue will be sufficient to meet the cost of the scheme; even if it is not sufficient it will have a deterrent effect on the people and put a stop to forest offences for some time to come in this taluk. The Forest Wealth will increase and add to the country's prosperity.

p 6 below

11. Statistics so far available from the registers are given below:-

P.T.O.

~~- 4 -~~

Statistics.

Year.	No. of cases.	Compounded.	Value of Trees.	Convicted in Court.	No. of cases pending.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
1943-44.	69	66 plus 1	Rs.1238/-	1	1
1944-45	59	50	" 2263	2	7
1945-46. Up to date.	66	26	" 2640	1	39

NOTE:- The Estimated loss in respect of the cases undetected and unearthed during these 3 years ill be more than Rs.25,000/-.

(Sd.) xx xx
For Tahsildar.

N. Dis.C.No.10362/45.

Submitted to the Collector of South Kanara.

2. The illicit fellings of trees from Government land In Coondapoor Taluk have really become uncontrolable by the existing staff and the entertainment of the special staff is a necessity in the interests of Government revenue and proper administration. I agree with the - Tahsildar and endorse his recommendation.

(Sd.) xx xx
Revenue Divisional Officer.

/ True Copy /

For Addl. Joint Secretary.

Copy of letter from the Chief Conservator of Forests,Madras Ref.No.2141/46 C.2 dated 25th April 1946 to the Secretary,Board of Revenue.

Ref: Board's Ref.No.E.4642/45-1 dated 16-2-46

--

below I enclose herewith copies of the reports from the District Forest Officer, South Kanara and the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund circle in the matter.

/True copy/

Copy of L.Dis.No.596/46 dated 10-4-46 from the Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund circle, Ootacamund addressed to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Egmore, Madras.

--

Resubmitted to the Chief Conservator of Forests,Madras

6 lens 2. I enclose a copy of South Kanara Dt.Forest Officer's Ref.No. 3146/45/C2. dated 5-4-1946.

3. I have no special remarks to offer. The Collector asks for sanction for a special Deputy Tahsildar, a clerk, and 2 peons for six months.

Enclosure:

Copy of R.C.No.3146/45/C2.dated 5-4-46 from the District Forest Officer, South Kanara to the Conservator of Forests,Ootacamund circle.

--

Ref: Your Ref.No.M.596/45 d.6-3-46

Sub: Unreserves-South Kanara Division-Coondapoor taluk--detection of Forest Offences--employment of--special staff.

--

p.t.o.

8

Coondapoor Tahsildar's request is to supplement the revenue staff by a Dy.Tahsildar, a clerk, a surveyor, two peons and a measurer. This is to meet the "Extraordinary situation" and as explained and supported by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Coondapur to control illicit fellings of trees from Govt. lands. I fail to see the necessity of the employment of a surveyor, or a measurer which have been cut out by the Collector in his forwarding report. It is not known what work is proposed to be entrusted to the two peons- to be office peons or do patrol work.

2. Though I do not fully endorse the alluring picture depicted by the Tahsildar (my personal opinion about this Tahsildar is that he is in the habit of exaggerating facts and in support I invite attention to the statement in para 7 of his report " and hundreds of cases remain to be unearthed") I do agree, that in view of the increased demand for timber and rise in prices, illicit felling from Govt.lands are on increase.

3. Anyhow the necessity of the additional staff can be rightly evaluated only by the Collector who is in ful possession of up to date facts about the existing staff and work on hand and since he supports the Tahsildar's request for the additional staff I have no ground or reason to differ.

/ True copy/

for Addl.Joint Secretary.

CRD
ADN/7/5.

Platform docket

G.O.No. 2075 dt. 29/5/46, Rev. Depc

Sub:- Ecc- Forest- S. Kanara -
Coondapur T.K.- Detection of Forest-
offences- Appointment of Special
S/A66 - Proposals- sanctioned

Ref:- From the Collector of S. Kanara D.Dis
140111/45 dated 21.12.45
From the C.C.F. R.O.No. D141/46 C24/25-4-46
From the Board of Rev. Proc. No. 4662/45-3 dt. 46
G.O.No. MS. dated

The Govt. sanction the employment of a Special S/A66 of the Dy. Tahsildar, one Lower Div. clerk and Two peons on Rs 12-12 each p.m. for a period of three months from the date of appointment for work connected with the detection of offences in the Coondapur Taluk of the S. Kanara District.

To: The Board of Rev
The C.C.F.
The A.G. through
For

28 9-1 Ecc

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 17 MAY 1946 FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Rev. & Fin. U.O. for acceptance of the draft orders.

Rev U.O. 2984-C/46-1
15-5-46

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 1829 F 16 MAY 1946 REVENUE DEPARTMENT

RD

Accepted.

Rev-U.O. 1829/46-1

Fin (Ex).

The draft order may be accepted. (The Local Dy. Forest Officer has reported that the Tahsildar has exaggerated facts but has no objection to the proposal as the Conservr. who is in full possession of the facts, has supported the demand) ... The extra Cost on account of the proposal works out to Rs 9.11/- for a period of 3 months. If, however, it is found necessary later on to continue the Staff beyond 3 months entailing an extra Cost exceeding the sums of Rs 3000/- pm. the Case should be circulated to the Ct Fin.

17.5.46

18/5/46

Dy

Fin U.O. No. 2892 I Ex. I
18.5.46.

Dev

Development (C)

To A.S.

Rev. d Fin notes on pp 1-2 above. ~~Fin suggest that~~ [w.r.t. 'A' of Fin Notes above, this may case may be circulated (when 10 HPM) proposals for the continuance of the Staff are received from the C.C.F.] the draft order on p1 above may now issue.

32213

UNDER SECRETARY
20 MAY 1946
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

(& P. Madhava Rao)

HM (JL)

22/5/46 & May issue

21.5.46

C. Sivaraman
22/5/46

H.M. (J.L.)

Issued as G.O. Ms. 2075 D dt: 29.5.46)

x.o.x